The New York Times

Clouds Have Lifted, and the Hamptons Beckon



Gordon M. Grant for The New York Times

WHAT'S HOT? A lot. Visitors to the Hamptons this season will find new clubs, restaurants, shops, shows, workouts and a fresh scene in Montauk. Above, the Navy Beach restaurant in Montauk.

By JULIA CHAPLIN Published: May 25, 2011

IS it summer already? It certainly feels that way in the Hamptons, where a post-recession lift brings new places to dine, shop and, of course, party. Mercifully, the mood has shifted from the go-go 2000s. Instead of magnums of Cristal, it's now about communal seaplanes, hipster charities, hippie festivals, Montauk and more Montauk. Our guide:

2. MORE IN MONTAUK

Finally, an alternative to the Surf Lodge by the people who brought you the Surf Lodge, the beachside hot spot credited (or blamed) for raising the party decibels in Montauk. The old Second House Tavern is being reborn as Ruschmeyers, a restaurant, bar and hotel with plenty of hipster flourishes.

"Midcentury, nautical, summer camp with a Wes Anderson twist," is how Ben Pundole, an owner with Rob McKinley, describes the look. Also expect tepee lounges, treehouses and a beer garden inside the old swimming pool. The restaurant, run by the Fat Radish team (Phil Winser and Ben Towill), features local seafood and long picnic tables.

Also in Montauk, the Crow's Nest, a divey restaurant/inn that the hotelier Sean Macpherson took over last summer, has seen more renovations, including spruced-up rooms and a new two-bedroom cottage.

Ruschmeyers, 161 Second House Road, Montauk; visitruschmeyers.com; (631) 668-2877. Crow's Nest, 4 Old West Lake Drive, Montauk; (631) 668-2077.